

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/008099

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 G06F3/033 G06F1/32

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F G06K G01S

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 92/09983 A (VPL RESEARCH INC) 11 June 1992 (1992-06-11) page 3, line 2 - line 14 page 4, line 17 - page 5, line 11 page 7, line 33 - page 8, line 14 page 9, line 22 - line 34; figures	1
Y	WO 00/63874 A (STRINGER, JOHN, WARREN) 26 October 2000 (2000-10-26) cited in the application page 14, line 22 - line 25; figure 9	1
A	US 5 453 758 A (SATO KAZUHIRO) 26 September 1995 (1995-09-26) column 3, line 52 - column 4, line 21 column 6, line 12 - line 34 column 10, line 20 - line 34; figures 1-5	1,2,6-8, 10,13,14
	----- -/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- * & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

22 April 2005

Date of mailing of the International search report

29/04/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
 Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Durand, J

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP2004/008099

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 126 513 A (MELOTTE HENRI EDUARD MICHEL ET AL) 30 June 1992 (1992-06-30) column 6, line 13 - line 49; claims 1,2,7,20; figures -----	1,3,7,9
A	EP 1 126 407 A (MAGNEX CORPORATION) 22 August 2001 (2001-08-22) paragraph '0015! - paragraph '0017!; figure 1 -----	4,11
A	GB 1 187 130 A (PLESSEY COMPANY LTD.) 8 April 1970 (1970-04-08) page 1, left-hand column, line 25 - line 42; figure 1 -----	5,12
A	US 5 453 759 A (SEEBACH ET AL) 26 September 1995 (1995-09-26) column 4, line 3 - line 10; figure 2 -----	14-16
A	US 4 988 981 A (ZIMMERMAN ET AL) 29 January 1991 (1991-01-29) column 5, line 25 - line 31 -----	1
A	US 4 695 831 A (SHINN ALAN L) 22 September 1987 (1987-09-22) column 1, line 25 - line 60; figures 1-3 -----	1,2,7,8

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/008099

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9209983	A	11-06-1992	WO 9209983 A1	11-06-1992
			US 6094188 A	25-07-2000
			US 6452585 B1	17-09-2002
WO 0063874	A	26-10-2000	AU 4473000 A	02-11-2000
			EP 1250698 A2	23-10-2002
			WO 0063874 A1	26-10-2000
US 5453758	A	26-09-1995	JP 3218716 B2	15-10-2001
			JP 6050758 A	25-02-1994
			JP 7044315 A	14-02-1995
			JP 2001056743 A	27-02-2001
US 5126513	A	30-06-1992	DE 69227211 D1	12-11-1998
			DE 69227211 T2	20-05-1999
			EP 0513895 A2	19-11-1992
			JP 5127816 A	25-05-1993
EP 1126407	A	22-08-2001	US 6791398 B1	14-09-2004
			CN 1313675 A	19-09-2001
			EP 1126407 A2	22-08-2001
			JP 2001273056 A	05-10-2001
			TW 513674 B	11-12-2002
GB 1187130	A	08-04-1970	DE 1813319 A1	11-09-1969
			FR 2301135 A2	10-09-1976
			FR 1598338 A	06-07-1970
			GB 1545045 A	02-05-1979
			GB 1427920 A	10-03-1976
US 5453759	A	26-09-1995	DE 19525644 A1	16-01-1997
US 4988981	A	29-01-1991	US 2003048312 A1	13-03-2003
			US 6424334 B1	23-07-2002
US 4695831	A	22-09-1987	NONE	